



Solo® Cup Brigade® Spotlight Location

University of California Davis Campus' Red Cup Cleanup

Davis, CA



**Number of People
Collecting:**
200



**Units
Collected:**
4,551



**Points
Earned:**
9,802



Tell us more about yourself and UCD.

Teresa and Sarah are two third-year students at UCD. Teresa has been participating in TerraCycle's other Brigade programs since high school and got Sarah involved as well when the two met during their freshman year at UCD. Teresa is majoring in Environmental Science and Management and Sarah is studying Nutrition Science. UC Davis, like most of the University of California

system, prides itself on being a role model for sustainable practices. UCD was named the Sierra Club's number one Cool School for 2012 and has a goal of becoming zero waste by 2020. Student run groups such as UCD's Campus Center for the Environment provides students with information and resources to learn about sustainability on campus and in their everyday lives, in addition to working with other campus groups such as Waste Reduction and Recycling, Environmental Policy and Planning Commission, and Sustainable 2nd Century.

Tell us why you participate in TerraCycle, and how you involve your organization.

We decided to join the Solo Cup Brigade because red cups are ubiquitous in a college town. They are most commonly associated with big parties, but we have even seen people using them as dishes for their oatmeal. They were ending up in yards, gutters, and trash cans every weekend, when they should be recycled instead! We reach out primarily to UCD fraternities, picking up cups from participants weekly. In the future, we hope to involve the entire campus community in recycling of red cups, and also ultimately in a shift to a reusable alternative. Our mission is to keep our town clean and beautiful, to reduce as much of our plastic waste as possible, and to raise awareness about the sheer volume of waste created by red cups and the power we all have to make a difference.



Tell us how you like to spend your points and send us pictures (if applicable).

Red Cup Cleanup at Davis works mostly with Greek organizations at this point. Because of the large volume of cups that we get from individual fraternities, we allow them to choose which

charity they would like to donate their points to. This way, recycling cups through us can also benefit their philanthropic goals.

Tell us a story about your most exciting, memorable, or inspiring moment in collecting for the Solo Cup Brigade.

The most inspiring aspect of starting Red Cup Cleanup has been the surprising amount of positive feedback

we have received, often from unlikely sources. Fraternities are usually not associated with environmentalism but when we have approached them with the idea of saving their cups we are almost always greeted with enthusiasm and an offer to help. Furthermore, we have been impressed to see that several fraternities already have an extensive recycling system in place; some even compost. Seeing the varied range of students who care about the environment and waste reduction has been an extraordinary experience.

